

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4486

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INFO USNMR SHAPE

CINCUSAFE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1264

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/80

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: DRC REVIEW-US RESERVATIONS ON AIRCRAFT CROSS SERVICING

REF: STANAG 3430

SUMMARY: SHAPE PLANS TO RAISE ISSUE OF US RESERVATIONS ON AIRCRAFT CROSS SERVICING SET FORTH IN STANAG 3430 DURING DRC REVIEW OF US FORCE PROPOSALS. IN LIGHT OF POTENTIAL BENEFITS INHERENT IN AIRCRAFT CROSS SERVICING CAPABILITY, REQUEST WASHINGTON RESOLVE THE TECHNICAL AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS IMPLIED IN THE US RESERVATIONS WITH A VIEW TO PERMITTING IMPROVED AIRCRAFT INTEROPERABILITY AND COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS.

ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY MAR 28.
END SUMMARY.

1. STANAG 3430 IS A NATO STANDARDIZATION AGREEMENT ON RESPONSIBILITIES FOR AIRCRAFT CROSS SERVICING. THE US HAS PLACED RESERVATIONS ON PORTIONS OF THE AGREEMENT WHICH PRECLUDE MAINTENANCE OR ARMAMENT LOADING OF US AIRCRAFT BY OTHER THAN QUALIFIED US SPECIALISTS USING APPROPRIATE TECHNICAL DATA. EFFECT OF THE US RESERVATIONS IS TO INHIBIT FLEXIBILITY
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IN THE EMPLOYMENT OF AIRCRAFT WITHIN A THEATRE UNLESS A QUALIFIED US MAINTENANCE TEAM, EQUIPMENT AND MUNITIONS ARE PRE-POSITIONED AT ALLIED AIRFIELDS.

2. WE UNDERSTAND SHAPE WILL RAISE THE ISSUE OF AIRCRAFT CROSS
SERVICING AT THE MARCH 28 DRC REVIEW OF US FORCE PROPOSALS.
MISSION FEELS THE US RESERVATIONS ARE WEAK, BASED ON TECHNICAL
GROUNDS ALONE. MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE RESERVATIONS RUN COUNTER
TO THE NEED FOR IMPROVED STANDARDIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY.
REQUEST WASHINGTON REVIEW ITS POSITION CONSIDERING SACEUR'S
LETTER TO SECDEF OF OCT 23 WHICH IDENTIFIED IMPROVED STANDARD-
IZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY AS A GOOD WAY TO INCREASE COMBAT
CAPABILITY THROUGH NO COST-LOW COST MEASURES. THE REQUIREMENT
FOR IMPROVED COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS IS OVERRIDING, IN OUR JUDG-
MENT, WARRANTING A REASSESSMENT OF THE TECHNICAL AND SAFETY
RATIONALE AS A BASIS FOR THE US RESERVATIONS. ACTION
REQUESTED: REQUEST WASHINGTON REVIEW ITS RESERVATIONS ON THE CROSS
SERVICING AGREEMENT TO PERMIT GREATER MISSION FLEXIBILITY.
MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY
MAR 28.
MCAULIFFE

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